I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to MS Sequence Listing, to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

MAR 1 8 2004

March 15, 2004

PATENT Docket No. GC816

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Aehle, et al.) Group Art Unit: 1639
Serial No.: 10/688,255) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: October 16, 2003)
For: GENERATION OF STABILIZED PROTEINS BY COMBINATORIAL CONSENSUS MUTAGENESIS)))

Preliminary Amendment

Mail Stop Sequence Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 3 and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks begin on page 4.

An Appendix including the amended drawing figure is attached following page 4.